UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/PRST/1999/12
14 May 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 4001st meeting of the Security Council, held on 14 May 1999 in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Letter dated 7 May 1999 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1999/523)" the President of the Security Council made the following statement on the behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council recalls the press statement by the President on 8 May 1999 and expresses its deep distress and concern over the bombing of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on 7 May 1999, which has caused serious casualties and property damage. The Security Council expresses its deepest sympathy and profound condolences to the Chinese Government and families of the victims.

"The Security Council expresses profound regrets over the bombing and deep sorrow for the loss of lives, injuries and property damage caused by the bombing, and notes that regrets and apologies were expressed for this tragedy by members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). The Council, bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, reaffirms that the principle of the inviolability of the diplomatic personnel and premises must be respected in all cases in accordance with internationally accepted norms.

"The Security Council stresses the need for a complete and thorough investigation of the bombing by NATO. In this connection, it takes note of the fact that an investigation has been initiated by NATO and awaits the results of the investigation.

"The Security Council will remain seized of this matter."

99-14351 (E) 140599